

Correspondence and Postal Reports.

THE BRETHREN CHURCH AT JONES MILLS PA.

DEAR ED. OF EVANGELIST: As you requested a brief history of the origin of each individual organization or class in the Brotherhood, I feel it is my duty as your correspondent to comply with your request. Hence I proceed to give the facts as they appear in my diary and from memory, as follows:

1st. The circumstances which gave rise to this class are these; Twenty-eight members were disowned by the G. B. church, for saying they would be loyal to the Gospel, and that alone.

Among these was Eld. James Bennet a prominent minister of unimpeachable character, who continued preaching the word when the little cast-a-way band met for worship.

In correspondence with Eld. J. W. Beer, the writer was advised to call Eld. J. B. Wampler, a member of the reconstructing committee, appointed by the Progressive Brethren in convention at Ashland, O., June, 1882.

Bro. Wampler came to us on April 11th, 1883, held some meetings and organized the Brethren church at Jones Mills on April 17th, 1883, on a Gospel alone basis with Eld. James M. Bennet as minister, and Daniel Myers and John Homer deacons, they having served as such in the old church.

The organization consisted of twenty-one members in all. In the fall of 1883, we had a protracted grove meeting, for want of a church. Eld. Wampler and S. Hildebrand were with us to conduct the meetings, during which the issue between the Brethren and G. B's was discussed and our position plainly given to the public whose sympathies were toward us, the Brethren.

Right then and there plans were matured to erect a new church edifice, solicitors went out and found sympathizing friends to the enterprise, all around us, (save a certain class,) who contributed liberally, and this in addition to considerable sacrifice on the part of the membership swelled our subscription to an amount which made us safe to proceed to build a church, and to work we went, and by the 28th day of May, 1884, it was finished and the bell rang for service. Eld. J. B. Wampler preached the dedicatory sermon. Eld. S. Hildebrand, and R. Z. Replogle were also present and assisted in the service. The remaining indebtedness was provided for and has since been paid. Property is valued at \$1,500.

A few days meetings in connection resulted in twelve accessions to the little faithful band of brethren and sisters. Two deacons were chosen at the same time. W. H. Miller and the writer were installed with liberty to preach.

In November of the same year we held a revival meeting and commun-

ion. A choice was held for a minister, the lot falling on your scribe, who was ordained to the ministry by laying on of hands and prayer by Eld. J. B. Wampler. During this meeting the church was again strengthened by seven accessions, and since then she has prospered from one degree to another in strength numerically, and we trust spiritually (the latter most essential) and though we have had several reverses, cloudy days and adversities to pass through, a few have left us, some have passed over, and among them Eld. James Bennet, also the companion of the writer, and one deacon in the person of Father Jno. Homer, have gone to the church triumphant. A number also have located elsewhere and swell other classes, and a few are isolated. Yet we number 85 with a good outlook ahead. Peace and union within.

On the 31st. day of Dec. we began a protracted meeting. Bro. Snider the pastor, conducted these meetings. From the beginning the interest began to grow, until a deep religious feeling was manifest in the vicinity. The sermons were interesting and pointed, exhortations powerful and pleadings wonderful. Sinners were made to tremble, were convinced and convicted by the power of the Gospel. Meetings continued for three weeks, nights and Sundays. Result; 6 confessions three of whom have been baptized and confirmed in the church.

Moreover the membership are much revived and strengthened and encouraged to press onward to greater exertion and diligence.

Again this meeting has left good impressions on the minds of the masses that will tell in additions to the church in the future. May we all live faithful to our calling in Christ, and be a light to the world that cannot be gain said and success is sure by the promises of the Bible. Brethren stand up for Jesus; he will bless us.

The communion service on the 25th was a very enjoyable one, and will long be remembered because of the solemnity of the hour. Our young members all seemed to appreciate the blessing. Brethren were here from Bear Rock and Mt. Union congregations and all together we had a glorious meeting. "Praise the Lord." Bro. Snider will possibly serve the church another year.

W. A. HARMAN.

Jones Mills, Jan. 30th, 1894.

I. D. BOWMAN'S REVIVAL IN SHENANDOAH VALLEY, VA.

819 W. CUMBERLAND ST., PHIL., PA.
Feb. 5, '94. DEAR EVANGELIST: On Monday, Jan. 15, we began a meeting in the beautiful Shenandoah Valley, Va., where Eld., E. B. Shaver resides. As soon as we opened up fire at Maurertown we saw that it was a hard field to work. The disciples, Lutheran, German Baptists, United Brethren, and Methodists, have

churches near by that were well established before the Brethren organized. The field had been well worked before we began. The United Brethren closed a meeting near by a few days after I began mine with some 80 confessions. Hence the field was well worked.

But trusting in God, and not being at all discouraged, we preached in our weak way, the full doctrine of the Gospel, not trying to please or displease any. We felt assured that the Lord is always on the Gospel alone side, and therefore the word would not return void but accomplish what the Lord please.

After ten doctrinal discourses, we began to press the invitations and the Lord did bless our work. The meeting grew in interest and members until the house became much too small for the congregations. Neighbors furnished chairs and benches until we seated perhaps one hundred and fifty more than regular seating capacity, then with standing room we accommodated them the best we could. Immediate result thirteen additions. Others almost persuaded, and promised to accept Christ in the near future.

We believe that the influence of the Gospel alone doctrine will produce abundant fruit in the near future at Maurertown. Some of the most intellectual men and women in this part of the valley were convinced of Trine immersion, Lord's Supper and Feet-washing and some of that number were converted. I am becoming more and more established in the opinion that the Brethren church could have twenty additions to where we have one if all our preachers would uncompromisingly preach and practice the whole Gospel of Christ. Many are afraid to press our claims upon the people.

WHAT WE ALL NEED;

Less self, more Christ, sound doctrine, right living. Partiality, jealousy, envy, revenge in our ministers should be totally annihilated. Live and preach against it. The world is too large, our principles too momentous, time too precious, and souls too precious for us to injure the cause, and destroy our souls by thus harboring the enemy of mankind. While I am sorry to learn of one now and then going back to the German Baptists, (and I hope and pray that the Lord may go with them) yet I am glad to say that I believe a hundred comes from them to the Gospel alone doctrine to where one goes back. Let us love them all the same, but continue to press Gospel alone government, the grandest on earth.

Oh, yes, I want to tell you that I baptized a Confederate Lieutenant at Maurertown, a brave man, a desperate fighter in time of the war, and with his intellect and consecration, I believe he will handle the two-edged sword with all the skill and zeal he used in handling the carnal sword. We also immersed a Dr. Shaver, a minister's son, one of the most successful physicians in

the Shenandoah valley. We trust that he will be as skillful in administering the medicine of the great physician as he has been in his medical profession. All the additions we had we believe will make faithful workers for the Master. Three accepted Christ the last night. Pray for our success here in the city.

I. D. BOWMAN.

PAY BRO. HOLSINGER.

JENNINGS, LA.

DEAR BRO. AND SISTERS IN CHRIST:—The EVANGELIST comes to me loaded with news,—some sad, some soul inspiring and some educational. Bro. Holsinger's "appeal" in No. 3 sinks deepest into my heart of all. How can we resist it? For myself I could have no rest after reading his letter until I had decided to send him my share of the indebtedness on the EVANGELIST office. It does seem to me that some one should take this matter in hand and see that Bro. H. gets his pay, or a part every year until the debt is canceled. I am more than willing to pay him five dollars every year until the debt is paid even if I have to deny myself of some necessities.

The EVANGELIST says in No. 1, page 9, "These are years in which he must say I have no pleasure in them." Although this was intended to sympathize with a wounded heart and despairing mind, yet it seems to me very poor comfort when our pockets are empty and we are in distress. What was the Savior's words when they asked, "Lord when did we not so and so. And he answered them, "if you did it unto the least of these my brethren ye did it unto me."

Sisters, what can we do to help lift this indebtedness? Where are your societies? S. S. C. E.'s call them together and tax each member ten cents and send it to Bro. H. he will give us credit for every dime. I know nothing about your societies for I live so far away, but I know how we do in the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, when there is a call for money we all shell out, and see what a great temple we are building in Chicago, almost wholly by the women and little children.

I am sorry Bro. H. said this was his last appeal. For my way of doing a thing that I know is right and just is to keep hammering away until people have to come up to the mark.

My letter is growing too long, but if I don't see something in regard to this debt before March you will hear from me again.

Yours in much love,

ANNIE GRUBB.

\$5 TO SEND THE PAPER TO POOR MEMBERS.

NEWARK, OHIO, Jan. 15, 1894.

BRO. EDITOR: Please find enclosed money order for \$5.00 for discontinued subscribers versus poverty at North Liberty and Ankenytown—if any. If not give to the next best and oblige. A Brother.